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# **First record of *Pseudomedon* from the Oriental Region (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Paederinae: Medonina)**

Volker ASSING

**A b s t r a c t :** *Pseudomedon discolor* nov.sp. (North Vietnam: environs of Sa Pa), representing the first record of the genus from the Oriental region and from Vietnam, is described and illustrated. An additional record of *Pseudomedon kazakhstanicus* ASSING, 2008 is reported from Kazakhstan. The genus now includes a total of 23 species.

**K e y w o r d s :** Coleoptera, Staphylinidae, Paederinae, *Pseudomedon*, Oriental region, Vietnam, Middle Asia, taxonomy, new species, additional record.

## **Introduction**

The medonine genus *Pseudomedon* MULSANT & REY, 1878 previously included 22 species, the native distributions of thirteen of them confined to the Palaearctic region (ASSING 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012a, 2012b). One of the West Palaearctic species is adventive also in South America (ASSING 2009). Nine unrevised species of doubtful generic affiliations have been reported from the Afrotropical and the Australian regions For a key to the Palaearctic species, a supplement to this key, and a catalogue see ASSING (2009, 2011).

Material of Staphylinidae collected during a recent field trip to Vietnam included a male of an undescribed species of *Pseudomedon*, the first record of the genus from the Oriental region. Moreover, an additional record of *P. kazakhstanicus* ASSING, 2008 is reported.

## **Material and methods**

The material treated in this study is deposited in the following private collections:

cAss..... Author’s private collection  
cKoc ..... Private collection M. Kocian, Prague

The morphological studies were conducted using a Stemi SV 11 microscope (Zeiss Germany) and a Jenalab compound microscope (Carl Zeiss Jena). The images of the fore-body and the antenna were created using a photographing device constructed by Arved Lompe (Nienburg) and CombineZ software. The photographs of other body parts were taken with a digital camera (Nikon Coolpix 995).

Head length was measured from the anterior margin of the frons to the posterior margin of the head, elytral length at the suture from the apex of the scutellum to the posterior margin of the elytra, and the length of the aedeagus from the apex of the ventral process to the base of the aedeagal capsule. The "parameral" side (i.e., the side where the sperm duct enters) is referred to as the ventral, the opposite side as the dorsal aspect.

### Description and additional record

#### *Pseudomedon discolor* nov.sp. (Figs 1-11)

**Type material:** Holotype ♂: "N-Vietnam - pass 8 km NW Sa Pa, 22°21'19"N, 103°46'04"E, 2070 m, degr. prim. for., 11.VIII.2013, V.Assing [11+2] / Holotypus ♂ *Pseudomedon discolor* sp.n. det. V. Assing 2015" (cAss).

**E t y m o l o g y :** This specific epithet (Latin, adjective: colourful) alludes to the distinctive coloration of the species.

**D e s c r i p t i o n :** Body length 3.9 mm; length of forebody 1.9 mm. Coloration: head and pronotum reddish; elytra reddish-yellow; abdomen blackish, except for the brown posterior portions of segments VII and VIII, and the brown anterior portion of segment IX; fore- and mid-legs dark-yellowish; hind-legs with dark-brown femora, yellowish-brown tibiae, and dark-yellowish tarsi; antennae dark-yellowish with antennomere I reddish; maxillary palpi yellowish.

Head (Fig. 1) as broad as long; punctation moderately coarse and distinct in anterior portion, finer and shallow in posterior portion; interstices without microsculpture (Fig. 8). Eyes weakly convex, approximately 0.7 times as long as postocular region in dorsal view. Antenna 1.1 mm long and shaped as in Fig. 2.

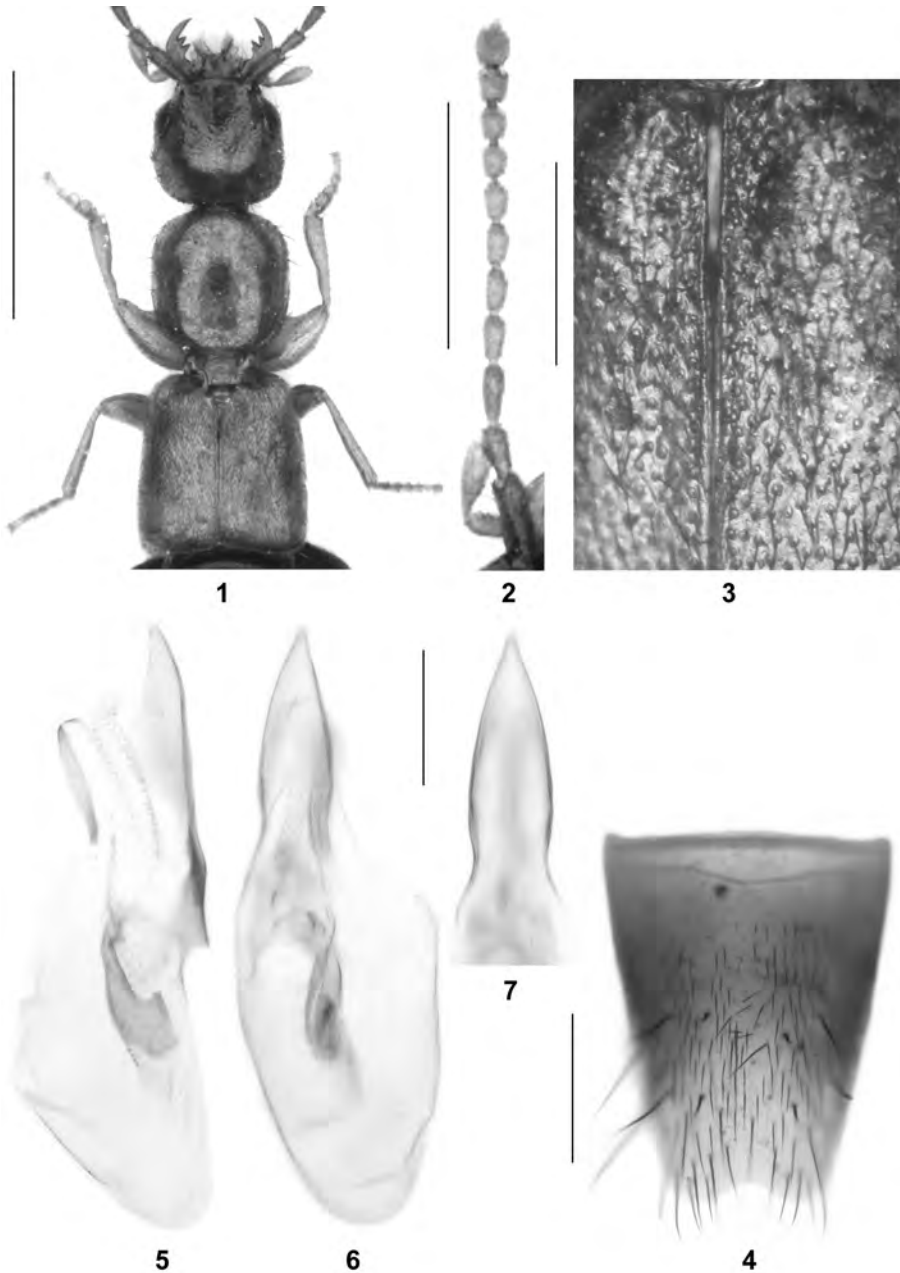
Pronotum (Fig. 1) 1.05 times as long as broad and 1.03 times as broad as head; punctation fine and shallow; interstices without microsculpture; midline without impunctate band (Fig. 9).

Elytra (Fig. 1) as long as pronotum; punctation fine and dense, in anterior portion finely granulose (Fig. 3). Hind wings probably fully developed (not examined). Protarsomeres I-IV distinctly dilated (sexual dimorphism?).

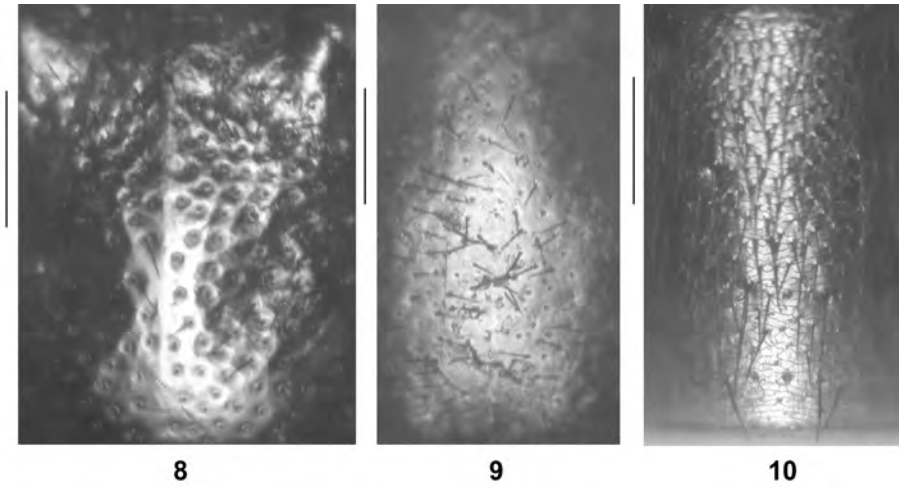
Abdomen with fine and dense punctation and with short dark pubescence; interstices with microsculpture composed of transverse meshes (Fig. 10); posterior margin of tergite VII with palisade fringe.

♂: tergite VIII (Fig. 4) distinctly oblong, its posterior margin with rather shallow and broadly concave excision; aedeagus weakly sclerotized, 0.45 mm long, and shaped as in Figs 5-7.

**C o m p a r a t i v e n o t e s :** *Pseudomedon discolor* is readily distinguished from all its congeners by the conspicuous coloration of the body alone. In addition, it is characterized by the moderately dense punctation and pubescence of the forebody (very dense in nearly all other species of the genus) and by the male sexual characters.



**Figs 1-7:** *Pseudomedon discolor* nov.sp.: (1) forebody; (2) antenna; (3) antero-sutural portion of elytra; (4) male sternite VIII; (5-6) aedeagus in lateral and in ventral view; (7) ventral process of aedeagus in ventral view. Scale bars: 1: 1.0 mm; 2: 0.5 mm; 3-4: 0.2 mm; 5-7: 0.1 mm.



**Figs 8-10:** *Pseudomedon discolor* nov.sp.: (8) antero-median portion of head; (9) median portion of pronotum; (10) median portion of abdominal tergite VII. Scale bars: 0.1 mm.



**Fig. 11:** Type locality of *Pseudomedon discolor*.

**Distribution and bionomics:** The holotype was collected near a pass to the northwest of Sa Pa, North Vietnam, by sifting leaf litter beneath old trees in a degraded primary forest at an altitude of 2070 m (Fig. 11).

***Pseudomedon kazakhstanicus* ASSING, 2008**

**M a t e r i a l   e x a m i n e d :** Kazakhstan: 3 exs., Charyn National Park, Ashen Grove, 43.67°N 79.39°E, 630 m, leaf litter sifted, 16-18.V.2014, leg. Kocian (cKoc, cAss).

**C o m m e n t :** *Pseudomedon kazakhstanicus* has been recorded only from Kazakhstan (ASSING 2008, 2009, 2012).

**Zusammenfassung**

*Pseudomedon discolor* nov.sp. (Nord-Vietnam: Umgebung von Sa Pa), der erste Nachweis der Gattung aus der Orientalis und aus Vietnam, wird beschrieben und abgebildet. Ein weiterer Nachweis von *Pseudomedon kazakhstanicus* ASSING, 2008 wird aus Kasachstan gemeldet. Die Gattung enthält derzeit insgesamt 23 Arten.

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